



Jones, E. T. (2006, Dec 11). Christopher de Carbonariis vs. Sheriffs of London: Chancery petition transcript, 1490. Unpublished.  
<http://hdl.handle.net/1983/902>

Peer reviewed version

[Link to publication record in Explore Bristol Research](#)  
PDF-document

## University of Bristol - Explore Bristol Research

### General rights

This document is made available in accordance with publisher policies. Please cite only the published version using the reference above. Full terms of use are available:  
<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/red/research-policy/pure/user-guides/ebr-terms/>

Evan T. Jones, 'Christopher de Carbonariis vs. Sheriffs of London: Chancery petition transcript, 1490',  
The National Archives C1/88/50 (University of Bristol, ROSE, 2006)<sup>1</sup>

To Right Reverent Ffader in god John Archibisshop of  
Caunterbury primate and chanunceller of England<sup>2</sup>

Mekely besechith your goode and *gracious* Lordship *your* contenuall Oratour Christofer de Carbonariys and *servaunt* unto master Ffraunceis de Pamanys<sup>3</sup> that wher the same master Ffraunceis late beyng an ambassiator of the Duke of Meleyn in to this realme of England covenanted and barganed with oon Richard Jolif of London Goldsmyth that the said Richard shuld make the said Ambassiator a Ryng of silver for a Bagg the which Ryng the said Richard Jolif dyd make and when the said Ryng was so made the facion ther of lyked not the said Ambassaiator how be it he contented and truly payd the said Richard Jolyf for the makynge of the said Ryng. And so the same Richard was then and ther fully content and peyd. how be *gracious* lord that the said Richard Jolyf knew well that the same ambassiator was departyng out of this realme in to his own cuntree and myght not tarry to *verify* the trouth of the said *mater*. And now of late the same Richard of his froward and malicyous disposicion hath commenced ii severall actions of ded of xxxvi s. Ayenst *your* said Oratour before the mair and the shirffes of London surmysyng by the same actions that *your* said Suppliant shuld make the said Bargyn with the same *Richard* Jolif and ther upon had hym arrestyd In which actions the said *Richard* Jolif was anounsued /. And ymmediatly after commenced a new action of trespass Ageynst *your* said Oratour before the Shiriffes of the said Citee entendyng by the same to condempne hym for the same *mater* and declarid to the damage of xx li. And so by the said Senester Sewtz entendith to tarry and to kepe *your* said Oratour out of his Countree to his great costes and charges beyng that *your* said Oratour is a Straunger and the said ambassiator the which made the forsaid contracte with the said *Richard* is gon in to his contrye. And *your* said Oratour is with out remedie in lesse *your* *gracious* lordship be shewed unto hym in this behalf. Please it therefore the same *your* lordship the *premysses* considered and to graunt a Writte of *certiore*<sup>4</sup> to be directe unto the Shirffes of London Commaundyng theym to bryng uppe the said Action be fore the Kyng in his Chaunerie at a *certeyn* day by *your* lordship to be remitte and then and ther such direction to be taken by your seyd lordship as shalbe thought to the same accordyng to reason and consciens and this for the love of god and in the way of charite. /

Endorsed on the back: 'Coram domino Rege in cancellaria sua in quindene Pasche *proxer* futuris' (Before our Lord King in Chancery on the quindene of Easter next).<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Transcription conventions. Line spacing, spelling, captialization and punctuation follow the manuscript. Reconstructions of suspensions are in italics, e.g. 'with' for 'w<sup>t</sup>'.

<sup>2</sup> John Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury 1486-1500, Chancellor 1487-1500. Since he became a cardinal on 20 Sept. 1493, this item predates this.

<sup>3</sup> Francesco Paganus, a Milanese ambassador dispatched to England on 12 Nov. 1489. In a letter of 12 Feb. 1490 he notes that he had been in London some time. On 18 Feb., Henry VII gave Paganus a letter to take back to the Duke. He probably left shortly thereafter, since he was back in Milan by 18 April: *Cal. S.P. Milan*, Vol. I, nos. 393, 397, 398, 401. Christopher clearly stayed on in England for long enough for Richard Jolyf to commence an action against him. This presumably involved a 'foreign attachment' whereby a third party could be summoned and attached (a form of arrest) on the grounds that they held property in the City of London belonging to the debtor: *Jowitt's Dictionary of English Law*.

<sup>4</sup> Certiorari (to be more fully informed of): A prerogative writ of the Crown to remove a case from an inferior court to Chancery, where the case would be tried on grounds of equity: *Jowitt's Dictionary of English Law*.

<sup>5</sup> The endorsement, written by a Chancery official, indicates that the writ of certiorari was granted and the sheriffs were required to produce certification for the reasons of their arrest before Chancery by the stated return-day: the quindene of Easter (28 April 1490). See: P. M. Barnes, 'The Chancery corpus cum causa file, 10-11 Edward IV' in R. F. Hunnisett and J. B. Post (eds.), *Medieval Legal Records* (HMSO, 1978), 440, 446; P. Tucker, 'The early history of the Court of Chancery: A comparative study', *English Historical Review*, 115 (2000), 798. I thank Dr Cordelia Beattie (University of Edinburgh) for her assistance in interpreting this endorsement.